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## WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD™ COLLEGE DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION

## Dedicated. to David B. Guralnik lexicographical mentor and friend

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ac cordion (a korde an) n. [G-(prob. < It accordare, to be in t hordion < akkord, harmony

ACCORD) + -ion as in ORCH TRION a musical instrument w keys, metal reeds, and a bellows: it is

played by alternately pulling out and pressing together the bellows to force

air through the reeds, which are opened by fingering the keys —adj. having folds, or folding, like the bellows of an accordion /accordion

pleats/ -accordion ist n.
accost (a kost', käst') vt. [Fr accoster < It accostare, to bring side by side < VL \*accostare < L ad-, to +

A CCORDION

costa, rib, side i 1 to approach and speak to; greet first, before being

greeted, esp. in an intrusive way 2 to solicit for sexual purposes: said of a prostitute, etc.

accouche ment (a koosh'mant; Fr à koosh män') n. [Fr < accoucher, put to bed, give birth < OFr acoucher, lie down < L ad., to + collocare: see COUCH] confinement for giving birth to a child: childbirth

ac-cou-cheur (a'koo shur') n. [Fr. see prec.] a specially trained person who attends childbirth cases; male midwife or obstetrician ac-cou-cheuse (8'kōō shuz') n. [Fr. fem. of prec.] a midwife or female obstetrician

ac-count (a kount') vt. [ME acounter < OFr aconter < a., to + conter, to tell < compter < L computare: see COMPUTE | to consider or judge to be; deem; value — vi. 1 to furnish a reckoning (to someone) of money received and paid out 2 to make satisfactory amends (for) (he will account for his crime) 3 to give satisfactory reasons or an explanation (for) [can be account for his actions?] 4 to be the cause, agent, or source of: with for 5 to do away with as by killing: with for she accounted for five of the enemy!—n. 1 a counting, calculation 2 [often pl.] a record of the financial data pertaining to a specific asset, liability, income item, expense item, or net-worth item 3 BANK ACCOUNT 4 a) a record of the financial transactions relating to a specific person, property, business, etc. b) CHARGE ACCOUNT c) a business or firm that is a customer or client, esp. on a regular, credit basis (one of our best accounts) 5 worth; importance (a thing of small account) 6 an explanation 7 a report; description; story —call to account 1 to demand an explanation of 2 to reprimand —give a good account of oneself to acquit oneself creditably —on account 1 on a charge account; on the installment plan 2 as partial payment —on someone's account for someone's sake —on account of 1 because of 2 for (someone's) sake -on no account not under any circumstances take account of 1 to take into consideration; allow for 2 to take notice of; note -take into account to take into consideration -

notice of; note —take into account to take into consideration — turn to account to get use or profit from account.able (a kount'a bal) adj. 1 obliged to account for one's acts; responsible 2 capable of being accounted for; explainable — SYN. RESPONSIBLE —ac-countrabil'ity (-bil'a tà) or ac-count'ableness n. —ac-count'able adv. account and yet (a kount'n sē) n. the keeping or inspecting of companying the profit and the proposition.

mercial accounts; work of an accountant

ac-count-ant (a kount"nt) n. a person whose work is to inspect, keep, or adjust accounts: see CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

account book a book in which business accounts are set down account current a record of business transactions that shows the

total amount of money owed as of the date of the summarizing statement

account executive an executive in an advertising agency, stock-

brokerage, etc. who handles the accounts of, and maintains direct contact with, one or more established clients and seeks new clients accounting (a kount'in) n. 1 the principles or practice of systematically recording, presenting, and interpreting financial accounts 2 a statement of debits and credits 3 a settling or balancing of accounts

account payable pl. accounts payable the amount owed by a business to a creditor, usually for goods or services

account receivable pl. accounts receivable the amount owed to a business by a debtor, usually for goods or services

ac couple ment (a kup'al mant) n. [Fr < accoupler, to couple up < OFr acoupler < ML accopulare < L ad , to + copulare, to COUPLE] 1 Archit, the placing of columns in pairs close together 2 Carpentry a brace or tie of timber

accounter or accountre (a koot'ar) vt. -tered or -tred (-ard), -tering or -tring (a koot'ar in, -koo'trin) [Fr accounter, earlier accounter, prob. < à-, to + OFr costure < VL "consutura, seam, sewing < L consuere, to sew < con-, together + suere, SEW ) to outfit; equip, esp. for military service

ac cou-ter-ment or ac-cou-tre-ment (a koot'ar mant, -koo'tra-) n.

1 an accoutering or being accoutered 2 (pl.) a) personal outfit; clothes; dress b) a soldier's equipment except clothes and weapons Ac-cra (a kra') capital of Ghana: seaport on the Gulf of Guinea: pop.

ac-credit (a kred'it) vt. [Fr accréditer, to give credit or authority < à, to + crédit, CREDIT ) 1 to bring into credit or favor 2 to authorize; give credentials to fan accredited representative 3 to believe in; take as true 4 to certify as meeting certain set standards (colleges may be accredited by regional associations/ 5 to attribute; credit (an action accredited to him) —SYN. AUTHORIZE —accredit ta'tion (-ə tā'shən) n.

ac-crete (a kret') vi. -cret'led, -cret'ing [ < L accretus, pp. of

accordion / accustomed

accrescere: see fo together; adhere grown together

to grow by being added to 2 to grow co cause to adhere or unite (to) -adj. Bot.

ac-cre-tion (a kré'shan) n. L accretio < accrescere, to increase < ad., to + crescere, to grow see CRESCENT 1 1 growth in size, esp. by addition or accumulation 2 a growing together of parts normally separate 3 accumulated matter /the accretion of earth on the separate 3 accumulated matter fair detection of earth on the shore/ 4 a part added separately; addition 5 a whole resulting from such growth or accumulation 6 Law the addition of soil to land by gradual, natural deposits—accore'tive (-krēt'iv) adj. accural (a kroo'al) n. 1 the act or process of accruing 2 the

amount that accrues Also ac-crue'ment

ac-crue (a kroo') vi. -crued', -cru'ing [ME acreuen < OF acreu, pp. of acroistre, increase < L accrescere see ACCRETION | 1 to come as a natural growth, advantage, or right (to) 2 to be added periodically as an increase: said esp. of interest on money —vt. to accumulate periodically as an increase (savings accounts accrue interest) acct 1 account 2 accountant

\*ac-cul-tur-ate (a kul'char at') vi., vi. -atjed, -ating | back-form. <

fol. I to undergo, or alter by, acculturation

\*ac-culturiation (a kul'char â'shan) n. [AC + CULTUR(E) +
ATION] Sociology 1 the process of conditioning a child to the
patterns or customs of a culture 2 the process of becoming adapted to a new or different culture with more or less advanced patterns 3 the mutual influence of different cultures in close contact -ac-cul'-

ac-cum-bent (a kum'bant) adj. [L accumbens, prp. of accumbere < ad. to + cubare, to recline] 1 lying down 2 Bot. lying against some other part: said esp. of certain cotyledons—accumbency n.

some other part: said esp. of certain cotyredons—ac-cum being y n.

ac-cumulate (a kyōōm'yōō lāt', -ya-) vL, vi. -lat'ed, -lat'ing [ < L accumulatus, pp. of accumulare < ad-, to + cumulare, to heap: see

CUMULUS ] to pile up, collect, or gather together, esp. over a period of time—ac-cu'mu-lable (·la bal) adj.

or being accumulated; collection 2 accumulated or collected material; heap 3 the addition to capital of interest or profits

ac-cu-mu-la-tive (a kyoom'yoo lat'iv, -lat iv; -ya-) adj. 1 resulting from accumulation; cumulative 2 tending to accumulate 3 acquisitive -ac-cu'mu latively adv.

tive —ac-cu mu-is uvery sov.

ac-cu-mu-la-tor (a kyōom'yōo lat'ar, -ya-) n. 1 a person or thing that accumulates 2 a) an apparatus that collects and stores energy b) [Brit.] STORAGE BATTERY 3 a type of shock absorber 4 a device or circuit unit performing one or more of the operations of storage, arithmetic, and logic, as in a computer, cash register, etc.

ac-cu-raicy (ak'yoor a se, -yar-) n. the quality or state of being accurate or exact; precision; exactness

ac-cu-rate (ak'yoor it, -yor-) adj. [L accuratus, pp. of accurare < ad-, to + curare, to take care < cura, care: see CURE] 1 careful and exact 2 free from mistakes or errors; precise 3 adhering closely to a standard (an accurate thermometer) -SYN. CORRECT -ac'curately adv. —ac'cu-rate-ness n.

ratesy 8av.—accurate-ness n.
accursed (a ker'sid, kerst') 8adi. [ME acursed, pp. of acursen, pronounce a curse upon, excommunicate < a., intens. + cursien: see CURSE] 1 under a curse; ill-fated 2 deserving to be cursed; damnable; abominable Also accurst (a kerst')—accurs'edly adv. --ac-curs'ed-ness n.

ac-custal (a kyoo'zal) n. ACCUSATION

ac-cusal (a kyoo za) n. Accusation
ac-cusation (ak'yōō zā'shən, -ya-) n. 1 an accusing or being
accused 2 the crime or wrong of which a person is accused
ac-cu-sa-ti-val (a kyōō'za ti'val) adj. of the accusative case
ac-cu-sa-tive (a kyōō'za tiv) adj. [ME acusatif < L accusatious <
accusare, Accuse: L mistransl. (by Priscian) of Gr grammatical
term correctly randered questions causations the goal accusation

term correctly rendered causatious, causative: the goal or end point of an action was orig. considered to be its cause \( \) 1 Gram. designating, of, or in the case of the direct object of a finite verb: also sometimes used of the objective case in English 2 accusatory -n.

1 the accusative case 2 a word in this case -ac-cu'sa tively adv.
ac-cu-sa-to-fial (a kyro'za tor'e al) adj. [L accusatorius: see

ACCUSE ] of, or in the manner of, an accuser ac-cu-sa-to/ry (a kyoo'za tore) adj. making or containing an accusa-

tion; accusing ac-cuse (a kyooz') vt. ac-cused', ac-cus'ing [ME acusen < OFr acuser < L accusare, to call to account < ad-, to + causa, CAUSE] 1 to find at fault; blame 2 to bring formal charges against (of doing wrong, breaking the law, etc.)—the accused Law the person or persons formally charged with commission of a crime—accus er -ac-cus ingly adv.

n.—accus'ingly adv.

SYN.—accuse means to find fault for offenses of varying gravity [to accuse someone of murder, carelessness, etc.]; to charge is to make an accusation of a legal or formal nature [the police charged her with jay-walking]; indict describes the action of a grand jury and means to find a case against a person and order the person to be brought to trial; arraign means to call a person before a court to be informed of pending charges; impeach means to charge a public official with misconduct in office, but in nonlegal usage means to challenge a person's motives, etc.

ac-cus-tom (a kus'tam) vt. [ME accustomen < Ofr acostumer < a , to + costume: see CUSTOM] to make familiar by custom, habit, or use: babituate (to)

use: habituate (to)

ac-cus-tomed (a kus'tamd) adj. 1 customary; usual; characteristic at, āte, cār; ten, ēve; is, ice; gō, hōrn, look, tōōl; oil, out; up, fur, ə for unstressed vowels, as a in ago, u in focus; 'as in Latin (lat'n); chin; she; zh as in azure (azh'ər); thin, the; ŋ as in ring (rin) In etymologies: " unattested; < " derived from; > = from which a Emericanism See inside front and back covers 

DECUSSATE

LEAVES OF

## decurion / defama:

360 es as much or as many; multiply

- vt. -pled, -pling to make te. by ten de-cu-rion (de kyoor'e an) n. [ME decurioun < L decurio < decuria, company of ten men < decem, TEN | Rom. History 1 an officer having charge of ten men 2 a member of a municipal or colonial

senate de current (de kur'ant) adj. [L decurrens, prp. of decurrere < dedown + currere, to run: see CURRENT | Bot. extending down along the stem, as the base of some leaves

de-curved (de kervd') adj. [transl. of LL decurvatus < L de-, DEcurvatus, pp. of curvare, to curve \( \) Zool. curved or bent downward de-cus sate (de kus'at', dek'a sat'; for adj., usually di kus'it) vt., vi. -sat'ed, -sat'ing \( \) < L decussatus, pp. of decussare, to cross in the form of an X < decussis,

the figure ten (X) < decem, TEN) to cross or cut so as to form an X; intersect -adj. 1 forming an X; decussated 2 Bot arranged in pairs growing at right angles to those above and below: said of leaves or branches —de cus'satelly adv

de cus sa tion (de'ka sa'shan, dek'a-) n. [L decussatio 1 1 a decussating or being decus-sated 2 an intersection forming an X 3 Anat. a crossing of bands of nerve fibers in the brain or spinal cord

or spinal cord

de-dans (de dän'; Fr. -dän') n., pl. de-dans'
(-dänz'; Fr. -dän') [Fr. lit, the interior < OFr
dedenz < de-, from + LL deintus, from within < L de-, from +
intus, within < IE \*entos, within < base \*en-, 18] Court Tennis 1 a
gallery for spectators in the end wall of a court 2 the spectators at
emetable in court tennis

a match in court tennis dedi-cate (ded'i kit; for v., -kat') adj. [ME dedical < L dedicalus, pp. of dedicare, to consecrate, declare < de-, intens. + dicare, to proclaim < dicere, to say see DICTION | [Archaic] dedicated — vt. -catted, -cating [ME dedicaten < the adj.] 1 to set apart for worship of a deity or devote to a sacred purpose 2 to set apart worship of a delty for a special purpose; devote to some work, duty, etc. /she dedicated her life to serving the poor/ 3 to address or inscribe (a book, artistic performance, etc.) to someone or something as a sign of honor or affection \$4 to open formally (a public building, fair, etc.) 5 Law to devote to public use —SYN. DEVOTE —ded ica or

dedicated (ded'i kāt'ad) vt. pp. of DEDICATE —adj. 1 devoted or faithful 2 Comput. designating a piece of equipment, a program,

taithful 2 Comput. designating a piece of equipment, a program, etc. that is deliberately restricted to a particular use or task dedli-ca-tion (ded'i kā'shan) n. [ME dedicacioun < L dedicatio] 1 a dedicating or being dedicated 2 an inscription, as in a book, dedicating it to a person, cause, etc. 3 wholehearted devotion dedli-ca-tory (ded'i ka tòrè) adj. of or as a dedication Also ded'i-ca-tory (ka tòrè). Also ded'i-ca-tory (ka tòrè) adj. of or as a dedication Also ded'i-ca-tory (ka tòrè) adj.

de differ en ti a tion (de difer en she a'shen) n. a reversal of cell

development, esp. in plants, so that the differentiation that had occurred previously is lost and the cell becomes more generalized in structure de duce (de doos', -dyoos', di-) vl -duced', -duc'ing [ME deducen

< L deducere, to lead down, bring away < de., down + ducere, to lead see DUCT 1 to trace the course or derivation of 2 to infer by

lead: see DUCT | 1 to trace the course or derivation of 2 to infer by logical reasoning; reason out or conclude from known facts or general principles — SYN. INFER — de duc'iple adj.
de duct (dê dukt', di-) vl. [ME deducten < L deductus, pp. of deducere: see prec.] to take away or subtract (a quantity)
de duct iple (-a bal) adj. 1 that can be deducted 2 that is allowed as a deduction in computing income tax (deductible expenses) — n.
1 a clause in an insurance policy stating that the insurance unit new 1 a clause in an insurance policy stating that the insurer will pay that portion of a loss, damage, etc. remaining after a stipulated amount, to be paid by the insured party, is deducted 2 the amount

stipulated —de-duct'ibil' ity n. de-duction (de duction (de ductio a deducting or being deducted; subtraction 2 a sum or amount deducted or allowed to be deducted 3 Logic the act or process of deducing; reasoning from the general to the specific, or from premises to a logically valid conclusion; also, a conclusion reached by such recognized distinguished (consuch reasoning: distinguished from INDUCTION —de duc'tive adj. de duc'tivelly adv.

de-duc tive y adv.

Dee (de) 1 river in NE Scotland, flowing east into the North Sea: 90 mi. (145 km) 2 river in N Wales and W England, flowing northeast into the Irish Sea: 70 mi. (113 km)

deed (ded) n. ME dede < OE ded, dæd, akin to Ger tat, ODu dede.

ON dath, Goth deds: for IE base see Do! 1 1 a thing done; act 2 a feat of courage, skill, etc. 3 action; actual performance shonest in word and deed 1 Law a document under seal which, when delivered transfers a present interest in property. ered, transfers a present interest in property - wt. to transfer

ered, transfers a present interest in property — ±V. to transfer (property) by such a document —in deed in fact; really ±dee-jay (dē'jā') n. [D(ISC) J(OCKEY)] [Colloq.] DISC JOCKEY deem (dēm) vi., vi. | ME deman < OE deman, to judge, decree < base of dom, DOOM! { to think, believe, or judge de-em|pha|size (dē em's siz') vi. +sized', -|siz'|ing to remove emphasis from; lessen the importance or prominence of —de-emphasis (cis') 2 emiphaisis (-sis) n.

deep (dep) adj. [ME dep < OE deop, akin to Ger tief, Goth diups < IE base "dheub-, deep, hollow > DIP, DUMP! ] 1 extending far downward from the top or top edges, inward from the surface, or back 2 ward from the front /a deep cut, a deep lake, a deep drawer/ 2 extending down, inward, etc. a specified length or distance [water

eight feet deep , located far down or back /deep in the outfield/going far down or back /a deep breath/ 4 far off in time or sp deep book/ termely grave or serious /in deep trouble/ 7 strongly felt /deep love/ 8 intellectually profound /a deep discussion/ 9 a) tricky and siv. devious /deep dealings/ b) carefully guarded /a deep secret/ 10 dark and rich /a deep red/ 11 sunk in or absorbed by: with in /deep in thought/ 12 a) great in degree; intense /deep joy/ b) heavy and unbroken /a deep sleep/ 13 much involved /deep in debt/ 14 of low pitch or range /a deep voice/ 15 large; big /deep cuts in the budget/ —n. [ME dep < OE deop 1 a deep place or any of the deepest parts, as in water or earth 2 the extent of encompassing space or time, of the unknown, etc. 3 the , located far down or back [deep in the outfield] eight feet deep extent of encompassing space or time, of the unknown, etc. 3 the middle part; part that is darkest, most silent, etc. fin the deep of middle part; part that is darkest, most silent, etc. fin the deep of night! 4 Naut. any of the unmarked fathom points between those marked on a lead line—adv. [ME depe < OE deope] im a deep way or to a deep extent; far down, far in, far back, etc. (to dig deep)—SYN. BROAD—go off the deep end 1 [Colloq.] to plunge rashly into an enterprise 2 to become angry or excited—in deep water in trouble or difficulty—the deep [Old Poet.] the sea or ocean—deep by adv.—deep'ness n.

deep-chested (-ches'tid) adj. having, or coming as from, a thick

chest /a deep-chested roar/
chested pie (-dish') a pie, usually of fruit, baked in a deep dish

\*deep-dish pie (-dish') a pie, usually of truit, baked in a deep dish and having only a top crust deep-dyed (-did') adj. 1 stained throughout 2 thoroughgoing, unmitigated |a deep-dyed villain| deeplen (de'pan) vi., vi. to make or become deep or deeper \*Deep-freeze (dep'frez') | < DEEP + FREEZE | trademark | or a deep freezer - n. | d-| 1 a deep freezer 2 storage in or as in a deep freezer - n. | d-| 1 a deep freezer | depth | deep freezer | deep freeze Ireezer —n. [d-] 1 a deep Ireezer 2 storage in or as in a deep freezer 3 a condition of suspended activity, dealings, etc. —vt. -froze', -frozen, -freez'ing [d-] 1 to subject (foods) to sudden freezing so as to preserve and store 2 to store in a deep freezer adeep freezer any freezer for quick-freezing and storing food deep-fry (-fri') vt.-fried', -fry'ing to fry in a deep pan of boiling fat

or oil

deep-laid (-lad') adj. carefully worked out and kept secret [deeplaid plans/

deep-rooted (-root'id, -root'id) adj. 1 having deep roots 2 firmly fixed; hard to remove [deep-rooted bias]

deep scattering layer any of the stratified zones in the ocean which reflect sound during echo sounding, usually composed of marine organisms which migrate vertically from c. 250 to 800 m (c. 820 to 2,625 ft.)

deep-sea (-se') adj. in or of the deeper parts of the sea [deep-sea fishing/

deep-seated (-set'id) adj. 1 placed or originating far beneath the surface 2 DEEP-ROOTED (sense 2)

surface 2 DEEP-ROOTED (sense 2)
deep-set (-set') adj. 1 deeply set 2 firmly fixed
deep-six (-siks') n. [from the custom of burial at sea in at least six
fathoms] [Slang] 1 orig., burial at sea 2 a discarding or disposing
of something —vt. [Slang] to get rid of, as by throwing overboard
adeep South that area of the U.S. regarded as most typically
Southern, and conservative, especially the southern most parts of
Ga., Ala., Miss., and La.
deep space outer space
adeep structure in transformational grammar the abstract syn-

\*deep structure in transformational grammar, the abstract syntactic pattern underlying the construction in the surface structure of a sentence

deer (dir) n. pl. deer or deers [ME der < OE deor, wild animal, akin to Ger tier, ON dyr < IE base "dhewes, "dhews, to stir up, blow, breathe (> DUSK, DOZE, FURY): for sense development cf. ANI-MAL 1 any of a family (Cervidae) of ruminants, including the elk, moose, and reindeer, esp., the smaller species, as the white-tailed deer and mule deer: in most species, usually only the males grow and shed bony antlers annually 2 [Obs.] any animal; beast adder-fly (dirfli') n., pl. flies' any of certain bloodsucking, dipter-

ous flies, esp. any of a genus (Chrysops) of the same family

(Tabanidae) as horseflies deer-hound (-hound') n. Scottish Deerhound (-hound') n. Scottish Deerhound \*deer mouse a mostly North American, white-footed mouse (genus Peromyscus)

deer skin (dir'skin') n. 1 the hide of a deer 2 leather or a garment made from this -adj. made of deerskin deer-stalker (stok'er) n. 1 a hunter who stalks deer 2 a hunter's

cap with a visor in front and in back ade-es[callate (de es'ke lat') vi. vi. -lat'led. -lat'ing to reverse the effect of escalation on (something); reduce or lessen in scope, magnitude, etc. - de-esicalia ition n.

1 defendant 2 defense 3 defensive 4 deferred 5 defined 6 definition

de face (de fas', di-) vt. -faced', -fac'ing [ME defacen < OFr des/acier. see DE- & FACE | 1 to spoil the appearance of; disfigure; mar 2 to make illegible by injuring the surface of -de face'ment \_de fac'er n.

n. — de-fac'er n.

de-fac'to (dê fak'tō, da-, da-) L existing or being such in actual fact though not by legal establishment, official recognition, etc. /a de facto government/: cf. DE JURE

de-fal-cate (dê fal'kât', -fôl'-, di-) vi. -cat'ed, -cat'ing < Ml, de/alcatus, pp. of de/alcare, to cut off: see DE- & FALCATE to steal or misuse funds entrusted to one's care; embezzle — de-fal'ca'tor n.

de-fal-ca-tion (dê'fal kâ'shan, -fôl-) n. ML de/alcatio: see prec. 1 ambezzlement 2 the amount embezzled embezzlement 2 the amount embezzled

defla mation (defla mā'shan) n. (ME defamacioun < OFr difamacion < LL dissamotio a desaming or being desamed; detraction,

slander, or libel